

Open access to full text and ETDs in Europe:



i
language?

Christiane Stock INIST-CNRS (France)

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The context

- Repository / Archive = Deposit by author = Full text = Online access on the Internet:

An equation which is no longer valid.

- This paper presents
 - How formal access to theses and dissertations is «improved» by making the landscape more complicated
 - How intellectual access to the contents of ETD can be facilitated by the choice of the English language

ETDs in European repositories

- According to OpenDOAR
- 26 European countries have registered
 - 476 repositories, of which
 - 272 sites declare to include theses
- = 57 % of the sites have ETDs

- But :
- How does it look like in reality ?



ETD Repository = full text = open access ?

- Full text present – but not on the Internet
- Full text in parts only
 - Thesis based on published articles
 - Parts (chapters) are confidential or « under embargo »
- Record only
 - Use of the repository as a catalogue of inhouse production (showcase for scientific output?)
 - Upload of metadata from other sources to facilitate deposit (workflow not yet completed)

Information for the End-user

Parcourir toutes les thèses de BICTEL/e-ULg par Département

Announcement
on
the homepage

Département	Type d'accès			Total
	Public	Restreint	Mixte	
Droit - Département de droit	1	2		3


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JANSSENS, Davy; WETS, Geert; BRIJS, Tom; VANHOOF, Koen (2005), [Adapting the CBA algorithm by means of intensity of implication](#), Published in: *INFORMATION SCIENCES*, 173(4). p. 305-318

 MOONS, Elke; WETS, Geert (2006), [Aiming for parsimony in the sequential analysis of activity-diary data](#), Published in: *FSDM 2006. International Workshop on Feature Selection for Data Mining: Interfacing Machine Learning and Statistics*, Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A..

 JANSSENS, Davy; Lan, Y.; WETS, Geert; Chen, G. (2006), [Allocating time and location information to activity-travel patterns through reinforcement learning](#), Published in: *11th International Conference on Travel Behaviour Research (IATBR)*, 11, Kyoto, Japan.

 Milis, K.; VANHOOF, Koen (2006), [Analysing success criteria for ict projects](#), Published in: *International FLINS Conference on Applied Artificial Intelligence*, 7, Genova, Italy.

JANSSENS, Gerrit; Sorensen, K; LIMERE, Arthur; VANHOOF, Koen (2005), [Analysis of company growth data using genetic algorithms on binary trees](#), Published in: *ADVANCES IN KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY AND DATA MINING, PROCEEDINGS*. p. 234-239.

Icon
in the
list of results

Information at
the end of the
record

URI	http://hdl.handle.net/1979/304
Type	Doctoral thesis Doctoraatsthesis
Accessibility	Only internally accessible from the K.U.Leuven intranet
Toegankelijkheid	Enkel intern toegankelijk via het K.U.Leuven-intranet

Information for the End-user (2)

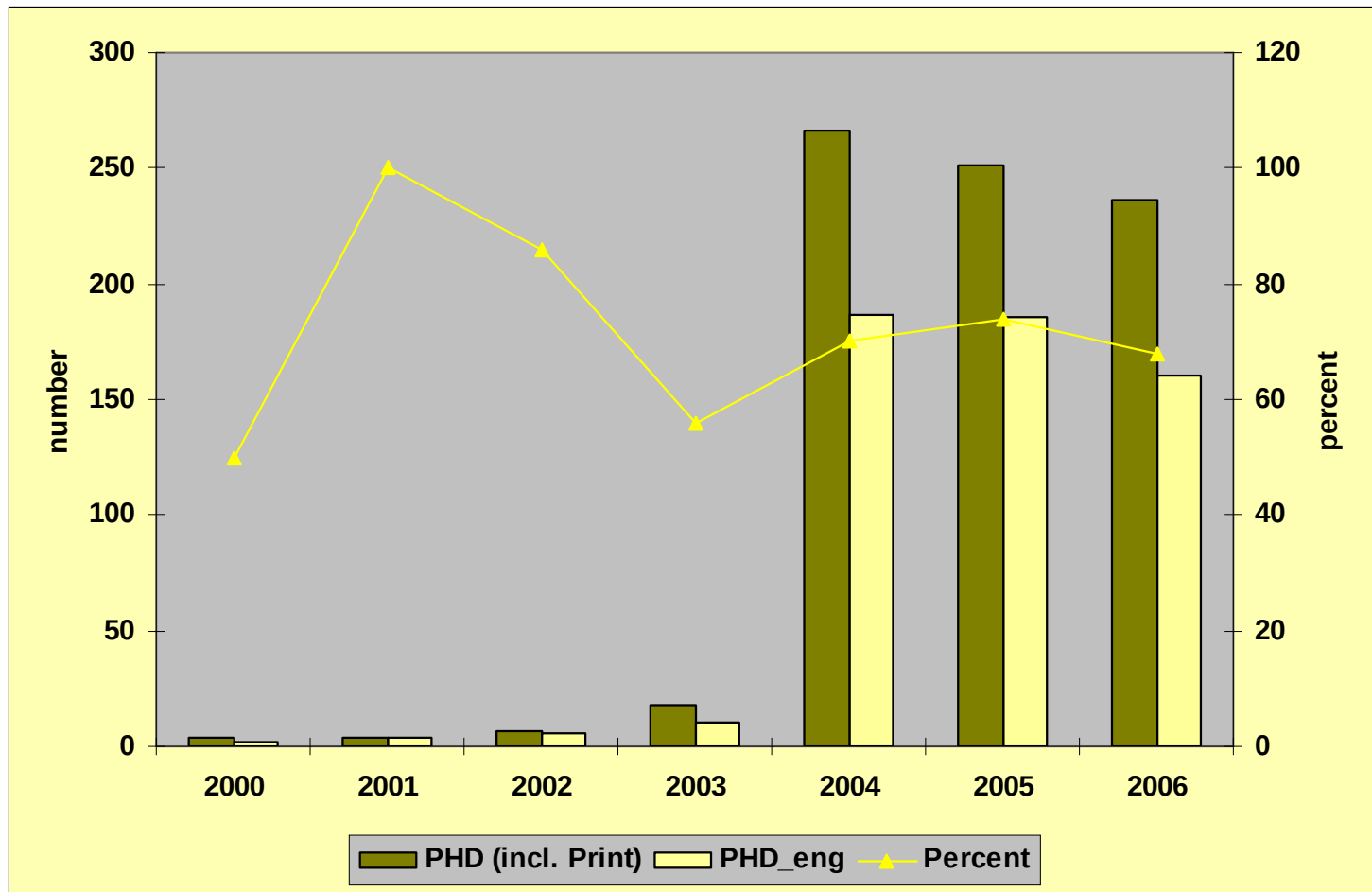
Theses with partial access in the Leiden repository

	Description	Size	Embargo
	Links to published articles	11Kb	
	Cover	113Kb	
	Propositions	27Kb	
	Full text	15Mb	Under embargo until 10-Nov-2008
	Title page Contents	111Kb	
	Chapter 1 Introduction	1Mb	
	Chapter 2	1Mb	
	Chapter 3	1016Kb	
	Chapter 4	716Kb	Under embargo until 10-Nov-2008

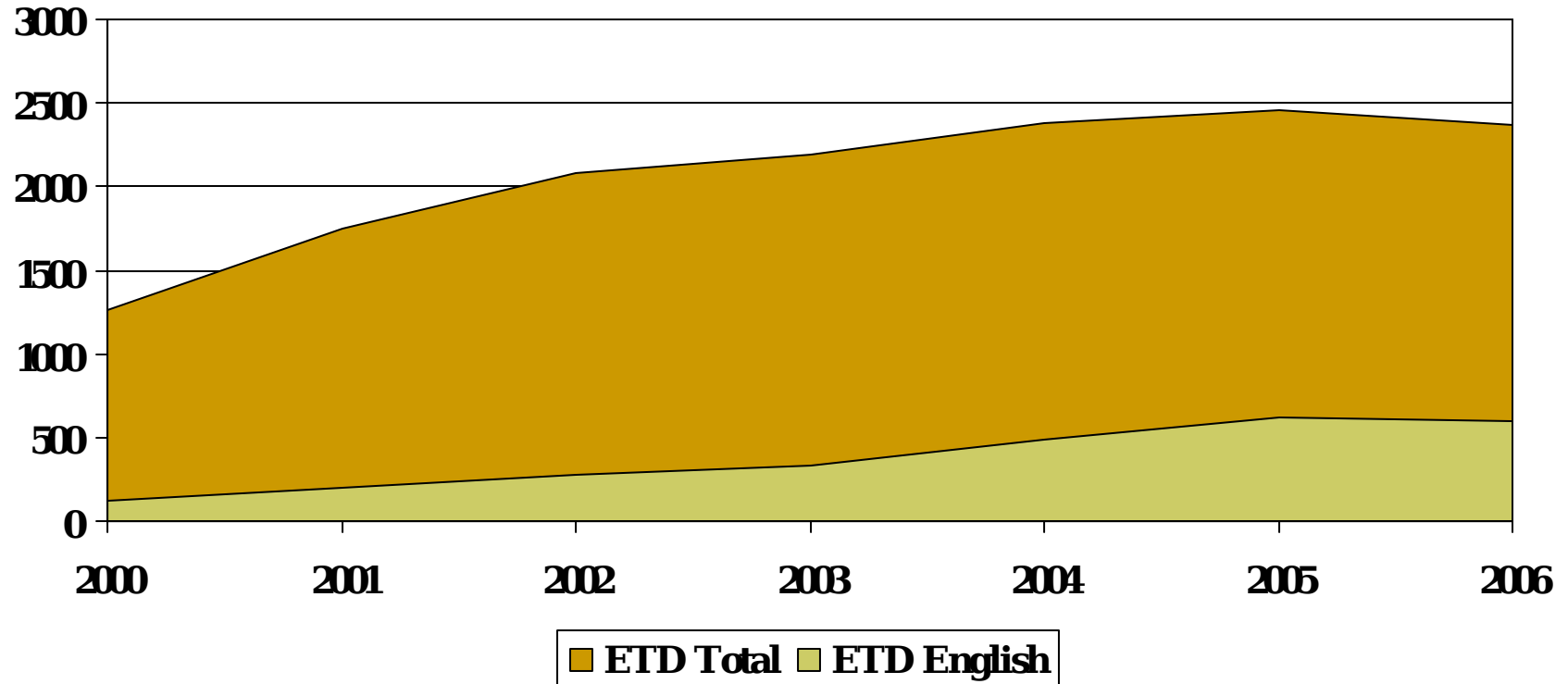
Improving access to the contents through the choice of language

- Observation : an increasing number of doctoral thesis in German repositories is written in English
- Methodology :
 - Repositories referenced in OpenDOAR
 - Search/browse/count by year and language
- Limits :
 - Impossibility to isolate the language and/or the year
 - Year not always reliable, some double entries

Data from Stockholm

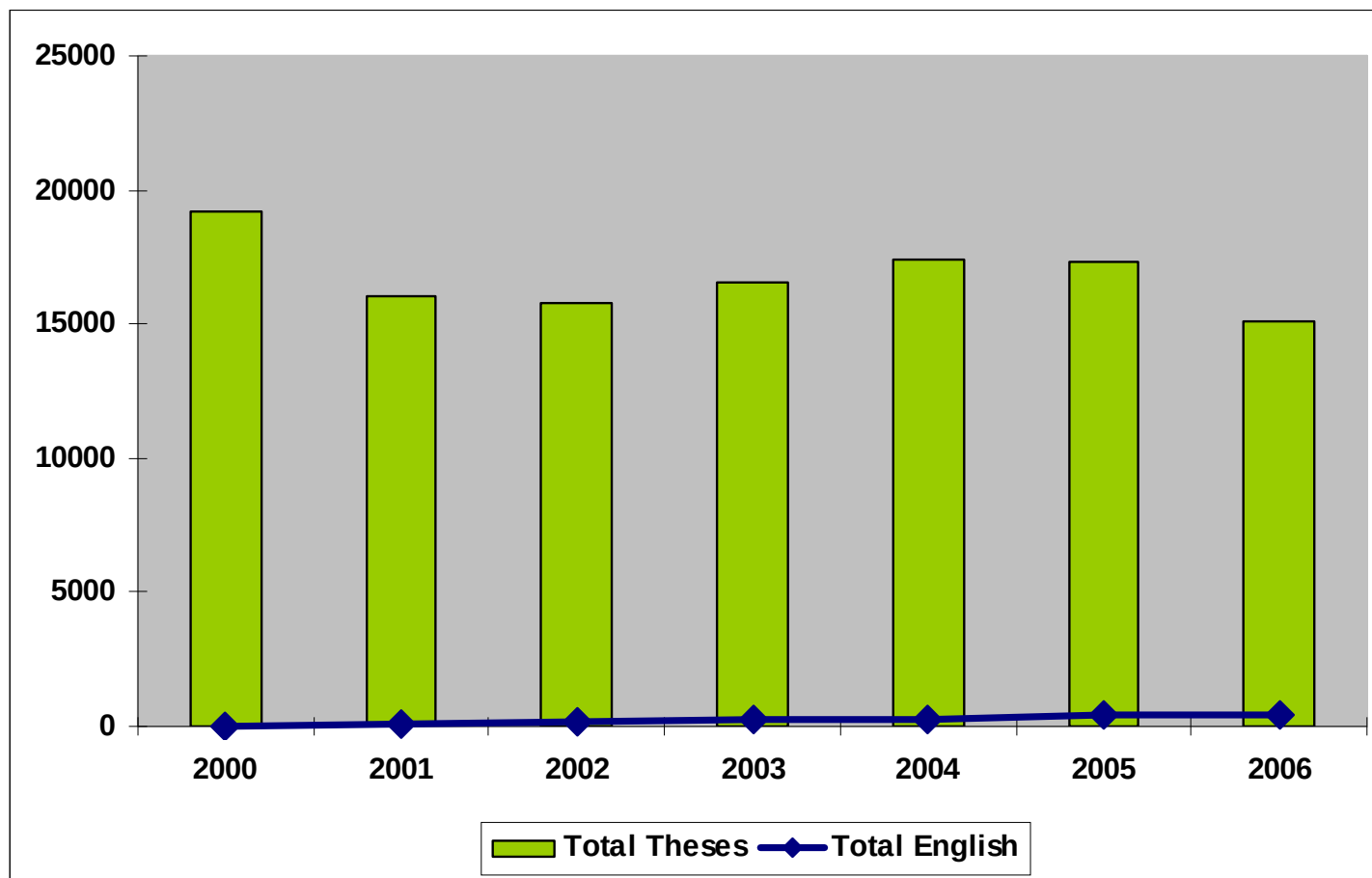


German ETD repositories

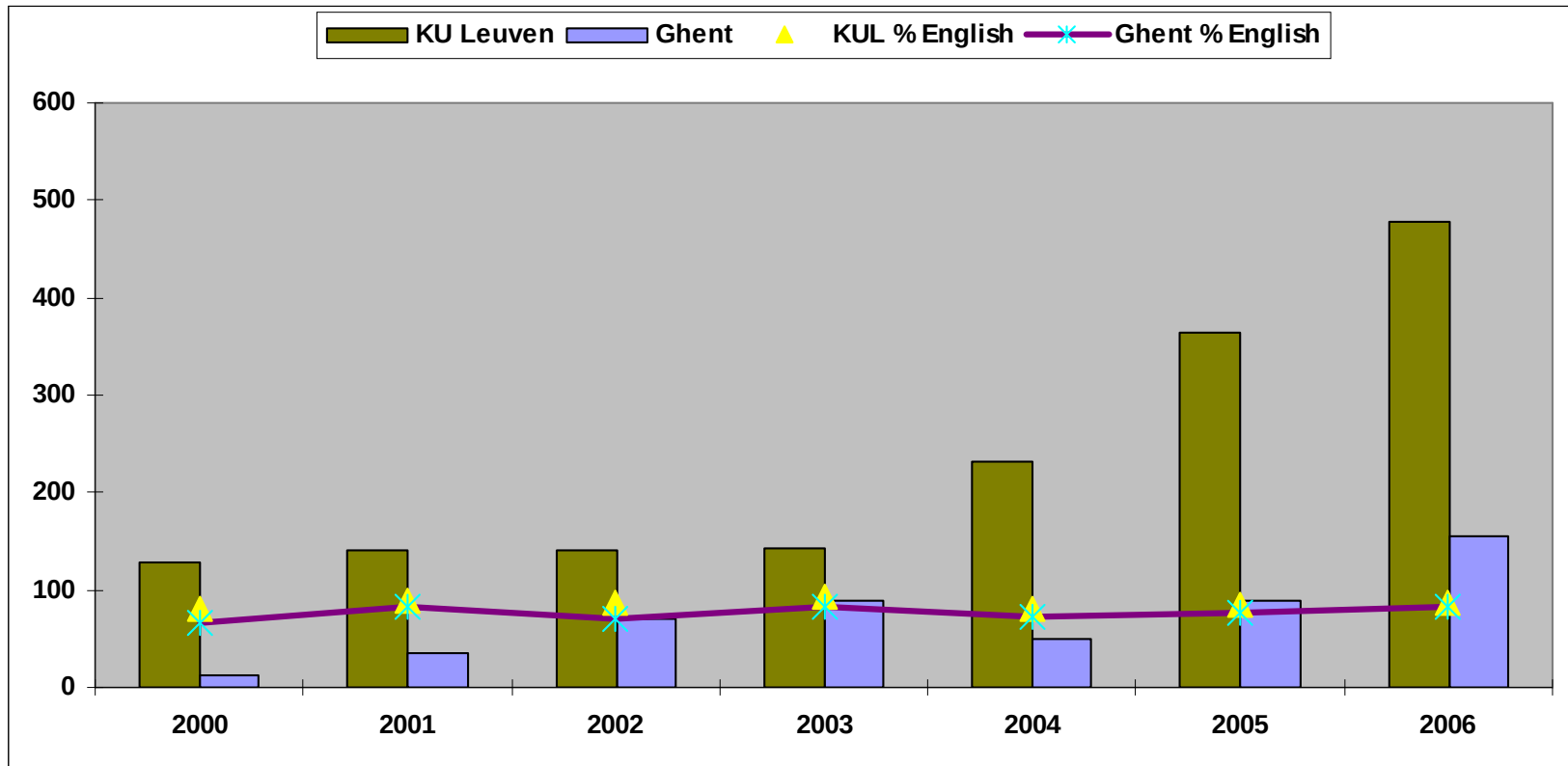


Cumulative data from Bayreuth, Frankfurt, Giessen, Hamburg, Heidelberg, Potsdam, Stuttgart, TU Munich

French theses (National Bibliography)



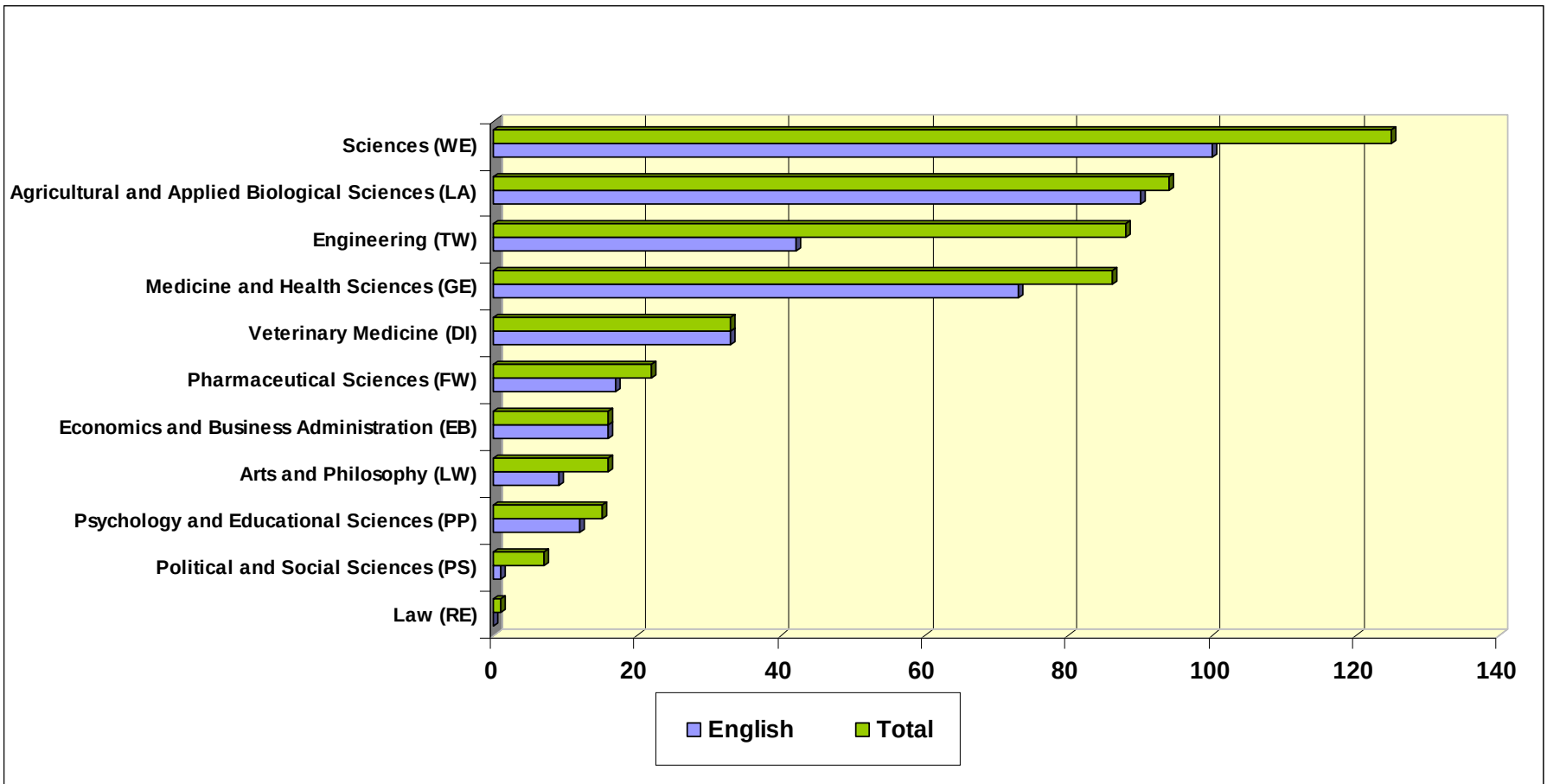
Belgian repositories



Ghent (BE): 500 ETDs online - 390 in English

Lille 1 (FR): 418 ETDs online - 5 in English

Ghent University by Faculties



Who writes in English and why?

- Sources : Introductions, Acknowledgements, title pages, Curriculum vitae
- Difficult language, e.g. Finnish
- Foreign student
 - Thesis submitted to 2 universities
 - Accessible to readers in both countries
- Search conducted in a foreign country or participation in an international project
- Certain scientific domains : Physics, Biology, Medicine

Conclusion

- The landscape of open access to thesis has changed very much in the past years.
- The growing number of ETDs "available" on the Internet comes with an increasing diversification as to
 - the degree level (PHD, Master's thesis),
 - the kind of access with regards to the full text and to the contents.
- A precise information for the end-user is more than ever necessary.

Thank you for your attention



Any questions?